

CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

1894.
With which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.

This is the
THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL EDITION,
and will be found, as usual, to show an advance
on preceding years both in fulness, and accuracy
of information.

The DIRECTORY covers the whole of the
port and cities of the Far East, from Peking
to Yokohama, and includes a complete
list of all the principal cities, towns, and
ports, with their names in Chinese, English,
Portuguese, and Spanish, and a full description
of each, including its history, topography, and
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INFORMATION.

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Hongkong, 26th January, 1904.

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Only communications relating to the news columns

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Communications for the private notice of the Editor

and address with communications addressed to the

Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good

faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one

side of the paper only.

No anonymous signed communications that have

appeared in other papers will be inserted.

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The Daily Press

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 27, 1904.

A significant statement is made by the

Shanghai Mercury to the effect that China

has come to a secret understanding with

Russia to abandon her claims in the Pamirs,

thereby leaving Russia a perfectly free hand

to settle the matter with Great Britain

directly. It was reported quite recently that

China had declared that she would never

allow the Pamirs to be used by Russia as a

route to India, but if the report given by

our Shanghai contemporary be true, she

would appear to have reversed her policy.

It is stated that she has been given a

quo pro by Russia, who has undertaken

not to undermine China's position in

Korea. The Mercury further states that no

written proof will be found to substantiate the

report, but it is of opinion that it will be

justified by momentous events in the near

future. On the face of it, it does not appear

improbable. One by one, China has seen

most of her rivals fall away from her,

and she has thoroughly made up her mind

to maintain her position in Korea, and if she

could conclude a favorable bargain with

Russia, her position in that quarter could

be put on a firm basis, and it would be very

natural that she should do so. Nor could such

a treaty of alliance be considered "directly

perfidious" towards England, seeing that there is

no treaty of alliance in existence.

The advisability of an Anglo-Chinese alliance has

long been strongly urged by several eminent

authorities, and in the pages of a magazine

article the idea seems very plausible, but in

practice the connection would be found

very delicate and unworkable. There is

not that mutual trust and confidence be-

tween the two powers, which would be

essential to a complete and formal agreement

at all their respective foreign policies. While

the Peking Government permits the

breakdowns against foreigners which have

long had few years disgraced the

country, deciding to punish the offenders

responsible for them, China must perceive

that such an alliance as that suggested

would be impossible for the contingency

that England might turn against her.

China is not a remote one. But if

England desires to be bound to China

the latter country cannot be expected to

act as if she were bound to England, and

the contrary she is free to act as she

thinks fit. A telegram in the American

papers states that Lord Rosebery, in a

passionate speech, has declared that

relations, and it is not to be denied

that there is at the present moment much

inspiration in the "China" reported

reproachment between Russia and China.

REPORTING THE PAMIRS MAY BE CONSIDERED

not an important item. Some confirmation

is lent to the Mercury's report by a statement

made by the Shanghai to the effect that the

Tungshing Yungshing have recently

patched several strong letters to the

Minister to Berlin and St. Petersburg,

ordering him to hasten in closing the

negotiations on several matters with the

Russian Government and telling him that

he may, so, so, so, so, so, so, so, so, so, so,

points that have long engaged his at-

tention. The acquisition of the Pamirs by

Russia would bring her within closer

striking distance of India and at the same

time the Franco-Russian alliance would

readily increase the effective force with

which England would have to reckon on the

west should she become involved in hostilities

with either one or the other of those powers.

That the Foreign Minister should carry

no very light heart at the moment is there-

fore not surprising, for the position is one of

difficulty and danger. The conclusion of an

alliance with China, however, would not

improve matters in any way, but rather add

to the difficulties.

It is notified in the Gazette that the

Ordinance has not been disapproved by Her

Majesty.

The change in the name of Victoria College,

which is in future to be known as Queen's

College, is notified in the Gazette.

The death is reported in Anhwei of Tsai

Kun, formerly Minister to the United States,

Spain, and Peru.

The death of a man is reported to be

permitted from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on

Wednesday and on the 12th from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

There will be no Rugby game of football

on the 12th, as the Club are to play the Navy

at Rugby next Thursday.

It is reported that in consequence of in-

tellectuals recently arrived in Japan to the effect

that the Japanese Government had ordered

the execution of a man, a Japanese

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